

# Parking a limo? Know the rules

BY RICHARD YAGER

Parking a taxi in your driveway — or a stretch limousine?

"Chances are you've seen commercial vehicles parked illegally in your residential community," said Suzel Cuellar, Team Metro Kendall's compliance officer. "Chances are also likely that vehicle owners may not know the rules for vehicle, truck or van of differing lengths and heights."

They're covered in the Miami-Dade County Code, and summarized according to three categories:

**Category 1** covers taxicabs or limousines (under 20 feet in length), or any passenger vehicle, truck or vehicle less than eight feet in height.

**Restriction:** only two under eight-foot high Category 1 vehicles may be stored or parked at any single residence. There's no restriction on placement.

**Category 2** applies to a vehicle of eight feet or less in height, displaying either a fixed or temporarily mounted external equipment (ladders, lawn care tools, etc.), and trailers or utility trailers of less than 20 feet, enclosed or open.

**Restriction:** Vehicles in Category 2 must be kept in an enclosed garage or beyond the front building line of the main house, and within a completely enclosed opaque fence, screening wall or landscaping (six feet in height), and at least 10 feet from the rear property line. Only one Category 2 vehicle can be parked on a property if a Category 1 vehicle also is stored on the same property.

**Category 3:** Any Category 3 vehicle, excepting a recreational vehicle exceeding 20 feet in length or eight feet in height, such as tow trucks, dump trucks, semi-tractor/trailer cabs and construction equipment.

**Restriction:** Street parking or storage

Right: Three Category 1 vehicles are one too many.



Center: A citation is due for Category 3 "Big Fella" at left.

Bottom left: Exposed Category 2 vehicle parking is a "no-no"



of Category 3 vehicles is prohibited in all residential zoning districts.

In Kendall, east of Florida's

Turnpike, Edwin Rivera, neighborhood compliance officer, and his team regularly enforce the code, usually issuing a

one-time courtesy warning for a first-time violation. Category 2 warnings last 24 hours, but Category 3 notices expire in just 60 minutes.

Failure to remove or properly park a commercial vehicle after warning can result in a citation carrying a \$500 fine, Cuellar noted.

Temporary parking for Category 2 and 3 vehicles in front of a building line is permitted to load or unload goods and passengers, or providing a service to the property. Commercial vehicle drivers are permitted up to one hour in each 24-hour period as a convenience for stopping at their home, so long as the vehicle is not parked on a county right of way, she added.

For details, dial Miami-Dade Center at 311 or visit the Team Metro website at <[www.miamidade.gov/teammetro](http://www.miamidade.gov/teammetro)>. Team Metro Kendall office is located at 11609 N. Kendall Dr., open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For permits and other information, telephone 305-270-4979.

